goods by the year 2010. With the FTA in place it is expected that the bilateral trade in goods by the year 2010. With the FTA in place it is expected that the bilateral trade in goods, services and investment flows would benefit.

Rise in Exports

†1957. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been 29 per cent increase in exports during May, 2004;

(b) if so, the factors behind the increase; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to maintain this growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes Sir. Exports in May, 2004 have shown a high growth of 29.43% in dollar terms as compared to May, 2003.

(b) Exports have registered a healthy growth in May 2004 on account of improved global trading environment, promotional and facilitative measures taken by the Government and growing export competitiveness of our exports.

(c) A Medium Term Export Strategy which is co-terminus with the Tenth Plan period (2002-07) was announced in January, 2002 with the objective of enhancing India's exports and achieving 1% share in world exports. A number of programmes/schemes have been launched which include schemes like Assistance to States for Developing Export Infrastructure (ASIDE), establishing Agri Export Zones, Market Access Initiative, strengthening 'Focus LAC programme, introducing 'Focus Africa' programmes, etc. In the Exim Policy, 2003-04 and Exim Facilitation Measures announced in January, 2004, besides, the focus on service exports and policies to strengthen Special Economic Zones (SEZs), a new programme called 'Focus CIS' has been introduced. Thus, measures are being taken from time to time to increase India's exports.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.